



The Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Date / Time / Location of Meeting	06-15-2020 / 6:00pm / via remote ZOOM conference
Members Present	Robert Barrell, Beverly Salate, Thomas Dillon, Michaun Fowler
Members Not Present	John Sullivan
Guests	Phil Leger (CMRPHA), Dan Mercurio and Don Varney (Agricultural Commission), Chris Rucho (Select Board)
Welcome – Call to Order	Time: 6:02 pm - The meeting was held “virtually” via Zoom and Mr. Barrell read a statement clarifying the reason and parameters thereof, pursuant to the Governor’s Order 03-12-2020 Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law.
	Mr. Barrell called the roll.
Approval of Previous Minutes	May 11, 2020 minutes, noted by present members to have been reviewed via email, were approved. They will be signed at the next in-person meeting.
Motion to Approve	Ms. Fowler
Motion Seconded	Ms. Salate
Result	Approved unanimously
Alan Harris, MD, former Board Member	Mr. Barrell wished to note the recent tragic and untimely passing of Alan Harris who served in capacities as member and Vice Chair of the Board of Health for 20 years; he lost his life in a bicycling accident. Mr. Barrell recognized his essential contributions to the Town, recalling that even after his retirement from the Board, he would call regarding important issues.

- **COVID-19 Update**

Mr. Barrell wished to address funding issues related to COVID-19. He reported that the funding received for COVID-19 related expenses is expected to be expended soon due to the costs of Public Health Nursing services monitoring the cases. Mr. Leger provided some information about funding for both the Board’s COVID-19 expenditures and Region 2 PHEP trailer supplies and Mr. Barrell indicated he will be working with the Town Administrator to obtain additional funding for COVID-19 costs.

- **Public Health Emergency Plan (PHEP)**

The PHEP trailer needs to be re-stocked with supplies which requires an inventory to be completed. Mr. Barrell asked for volunteers to complete the inventory. Ms. Salate and Mr. Dillon agreed to assist Mr. Barrell with inventory on Wednesday 06-17-2020.

- **Central MA Mosquito Control Project**

Mr. Barrell updated the Board – Proposal for membership in Central MA Mosquito Control Program (CMMCP) was not added to the Warrant for the Town meeting. Mr. Barrell related that he listened to a conference call with Dr. Catherine

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Brown, DPH Veterinarian, who reported the State is gearing up to provide a statewide approach to manage the threat of EEE and WNV as they are very concerned we are going into the second year of a three year cycle and the second year is typically worse than the first. It was noted that there needs to be an effort by Town residents to address standing water where mosquitos breed.

- **Non-commercial Farm Animal Regs**

Mr. Mercurio reported that the Agricultural Commission (AgComm) is recommending an amendment that in a single residence zone, for lots under a half acre, the number of adult fowl be limited to 18, with the option that a waiver can be granted if the owners get permission from abutters or if they are bordered by vacant lots or DCR land. Mr. Dillon brought up the question of what happens when abutters change and also that the publicly owned property should be more clearly defined in the amendment. Mr. Varney noted that the AgComm, in seeing the potential issue with small lots as with 22 Evergreen Avenue, now understand the need for enforcement measures and want to meet with Town Counsel to have a dialogue (rather than submitting questions) as to what the recourse is when animal owners fail to respond to letters. Mr. Barrell agreed to discuss this with the Town Administrator. Another question Mr. Dillon raised was whether the new regulations can be retroactive, with no grandfather clause, so situations like 22 Evergreen can be brought into compliance.

- **CMRPHA Local Report**

Ms. Edmands has started providing direction to local restaurants regarding outdoor seating in Phase II re-opening and completed a day camp inspection for the Little Gym. Mr. Leger reported that the Building Inspector is going to check the barrier at The Mill to see if it is adequate for safety due to its proximity to traffic. Mr. Barrell relayed the Town Administrator's request for volunteers from the Board to assist with enforcing meeting guidelines at the upcoming Town meeting. Ms. Salate, Mr. Dillon, and Dr. Sullivan volunteered.

- **CMRPHA Regional Report**

CMRPHA monthly update has not been made available to post. Focus of the Alliance continues to be on Pandemic concerns. Mr. Leger spoke about the Code Red sign-up which replaces the former contact process for Public Health personnel in case of emergencies.

- **Bill approval, Financial report**

The Revolving Fund Balance is \$38, 942.31. Mr. Barrell has been signing invoices submitted since the last meeting: IMA invoice for Worcester Inspectional Services for May 2020 - \$1806.24; Sutton Board of Health for April COVID-19 services - \$5809.62; Dell Marketing, L.P. - \$2133.24 for two laptops to be used for COVID-19 related tasks, and a \$150.00 refund of permit fee to Camp Woodhaven who decided to not open the camp this year.

Motion to Approve

Motion Seconded

Result

Ms. Salate

Mr. Dillon

Approved unanimously

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- **Office report**

Earth Removal Board Representative:

Mr. Dillon agreed to continue as Board of Health representative on the Earth Removal Board for Fiscal Year 2021.

Town Meeting:

Mr. Barrell reports he spoke with the Town Administrator who would like the Board represented at the Town meeting. He has assured her that most members have offered to participate.

Title 5 project updates:

385 Lancaster – Owner (Pick-off) in process of demolishing entire structure – no update.

290 Goodale – Perc Test completed; contractor Webb Construction, plans approved, Webb installer, needs permit.

73 Prescott Street – soil tests done, design by David Ross Assoc.; plans approved, waiting for installer to apply for permit.

67 Prescott Street – replacement system completed, waiting for final inspection, as-builts and CoC.

58 Keyes Street – Septic Replacement plans approved in 2013 re-submitted and approved. Plan is to complete project this year.

136 Fairbanks Street – Pumping slip indicated cess pool not working properly, file showed system failed T-5 inspection in 2002, drawings done for replacement, but work never done. Letter sent, owner called. Bob to follow up. No update.

7 Stillwater Heights – DSCP for D-box repair – completed.

320 Goodale Street – Soil test application submitted for design of replacement system by David Ross Assoc.

Title 5 Inspections – 7 Stillwater - conditional pass; 160 Malden Street – passed

Other Miscellaneous:

45 & 49 Central Street – not yet connected to sewer

53 Central Street – not yet connected to sewer, foreclosure - live auction 03-11-2020; no update.

22 Evergreen Street – Ms. Edmands inspected and is working with owner to improve conditions and reduce fowl population.

40 Winthrop Street – letter sent to owner about maintaining leach field.

- **Authorized Signatures for 2021**

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Mr. Barrell called for a referendum to carry 2020's authorized signatures to be valid for Fiscal Year 2021.

Motion to Approve	Mr. Dillon
Motion Seconded	Ms. Salate
Result	Approved unanimously

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion Originator	Mr. Dillon
Motion Seconded	Ms. Fowler
Result	Approved unanimously
Time of Adjournment	7:05 pm

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Signatures

Robert J. Barrell, MPA, Chairman

Beverly A. Salate, RN, BSN

Michaun Fowler, BSM

John Sullivan, MD

Thomas Dillon

Submitted by: **Margaret Lee**
Date Submitted: **07-13-2020**

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